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REMARKS

The undersigned has contacted the Examiner several times in the past two weeks, but to date has not secured a promise to issue a new Office Action and restart the period for response. The Examiner has stated that she did not have ready access to the file. This paper is being filed today, because of the one-month date mandated by M.P.E.P. § 710.06 for calling to the attention of the Office a defect in an Action and having the period for response reset.

The defect is as follows. On page 5 of the Final Office Action, the Examiner alleges that Applicant's previous explanations and traversals are moot in view of a new grounds of rejection. The grounds of rejection, § 102(b) for claims 1-12 and 14-30 over Goronsky (EP 1022725 A1) and § 103(a) for claim 13 over Goronsky in view of Ellis et al. ("Tandem Acoustic Modeling in Large Vocabulary Recognition," IEEE Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing, 2001), however, are unchanged from the grounds in the first Office Action. The grounds of rejection remaining the same, Applicant's previous explanations and traversals certainly are not moot, and should have been explicitly answered in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 707.07(f).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that a new Final Office Action be issued that answers each one of Applicant's traversals, as mandated by M.P.E.P. § 707.07(f). Applicant also respectfully requests that the period for response to the new Action be restarted in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 710.06.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Alan Pedersen-Giles, attorney for Applicant, at the number below to discuss such matters.

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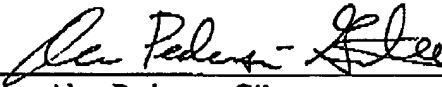
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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0221 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 21, 2004



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